

Parish Council Minutes – September 17, 2020 Meeting

Present: Father Perez, Keith Robinson, Kathleen Murphy, Frank Pandolfo, Burrous Snelling, Sandra Modersohn, Eleanor Ames and Sharon Booker by phone. The meeting was called to order by Chairman, Keith Robinson. Father Perez led us in an opening prayer.

The minutes of the June meeting were reviewed, corrected by deleting the comment Burrous asked about not wearing masks. They were changed to remove that statement. Minutes approved.

Old Business:

- **Parish Feast Day-** Our options are: The Visitation on May 31, Our Lady of Perpetual Help on June 27 or Our Lady of the Valley, Sicilian Feast on April 8. Kathleen will put a ballot out in FlockNotes for parishioners to vote for their preference.
- Renovating Blessed Mother Statue & Circle - Burrous will speak with Don tomorrow.
- **Update on basement, church office, and confessional** - On Monday work will be done on adding the dehumidifier system for basement. Two of them will be installed at a cost of \$5,900. Mountain Valley Home Heating & Cooling has the contract with the parish.
- We are still working on the plans for new office and confessional. Both need to be done at the same time. This needs the diocese approval and they have their hands full with Covid-19 issues right now. The handicapped accessible bathroom is still on hold. Dr. Starkey from the Diocese office will be visiting to determine what is to be done. There is also some Sanctuary repair needed he will look over.
- If anyone wants a piano free contact the parish or Page One will pick it up.
- Risk management visit by the diocese representative will be September 25.
- **Parking Lot** - Eleanor provided information for parking lot sealing and lining. Kathleen will call them tomorrow to see if it can be done as soon as possible

New Business

- **Finance Council Chairperson's Report- Frank Pandolfo**
When comparing collection amounts from July – September 2019: \$25,000 to those of July – September 2020: \$23,000, we have truly been blessed the amount is just a few thousand less given the situation with Covid. Our DIAL account balance is enviable at \$1.046 million after payment for dehumidifiers. We have managed to cut just about every utility bill thanks to Father's frugality.
- **Facilities Upgrade/ Repair Projects Update:**
 - a. **Security considerations** - Burrous has been looking into systems. Could get cameras for about \$100 each but he suggest hiring a professional to do the job. Diocese risk management may have suggestions. ADT and their app would work. Sandra suggested using Blink through Amazon. \$200 for 3 cameras and get free storage with them. Father also

suggested a special musical microphone to record as well as camera for altar area. Keith suggested we check with St. Johns about their system.

- b. **Wireless connection in the church** – The repeater will be installed by Sandra’s husband tomorrow. It will connect to the church computer.
- c. **Christmas Party** – Sunday, December 6 1:00 at the Moose Lodge with a Nativity Play and Lunch. The Ladies Council will plan lunch and will be served following social distancing guidelines. Masks required when not eating. Registration will be needed and will be put into FlockNotes so they know how many will attend. The Knights will take care of setting up tables. CCD will do the cleanup.
- d. **Online giving**- Kathleen reported the Parish Soft software tracking and envelopes are now offering online giving. Cost is around \$30 per month. They will not charge us during Covid-19. It will all be done automatically. This will help cut back on volunteer time with counting and also help with Kathleen’s time having to record every envelope. You can choose to pay the fee or have the church can pay the fee. Parishioners can sign up for the giving program usage even if they don’t have Internet service. They will provide envelopes for those who prefer to put an envelope in the collection. Kathleen will put together bullet points of the system and share in FlockNotes. We will encourage everyone to enroll in this system rather than continuing to use PayPal
- e. **Defibulator** –. The Diocese recommends each parish have one and they designate a specific brand for \$1500. The parish will pay for purchasing one and will install when it arrives.
- f. The Knights of Columbus are planning on doing a recycling type drive to raise funds for the State KOVAR organization which supports people with intellectual disabilities.

Church Website Usage

Eleanor Ames provided statistics about website usage for the last 30 days. There were:

- 474 visitors to the website, 385 of those were new users.
- Page Views: 958
- Visitors: New 78% Returning 22%
- Top Refers: Flocknotes.com
- Device Used: Desktop 49%, Tablet 4%, Mobile 47%
- Most read pages:
 1. Home Page - 326
 2. Weekly Bulletin - 122
 3. Our Pastor - 39
 4. Characters In The Nativity Scene - 37
 5. Announcements - 30

Next meeting Dates: Next meetings will be scheduled for December 17, March 18, June 17, September 16, December 16 at 7 PM in the Church annex.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned and closed with praying the Our Father.

Eleanor Ames, Secretary